

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	)	
Julien HERNANDEZ et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1793
Application No.: 10/562,908	)	Examiner: Shuangyi Abu Ali
Filed: July 26, 2006	)	Confirmation No.: 3883
For: THERMAL AND/OR ACOUSTIC	)	
INSULATION MATERIALS SHAPED	)	
FROM SILICA	)	

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In complete response to the Restriction Requirement mailed November 14, 2008, Applicants submit herewith the following Response.

The Examiner sets forth the following Restriction Requirement:

Group I: Claims 28-40, drawn to a method of preparing an insulation material;  
and

Group II: Claims 41-54, drawn to an insulation material.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement as set forth by the Examiner. Moreover, Applicants respectfully assert that Groups I and II should properly be examined together. Further, Applicants submit that Groups I and II are closely related and that a proper search of any of the claims should, by necessity, require a proper search of the others. Thus, Applicants submit that all of the claims can be searched simultaneously, and that a duplicative search, with possibly inconsistent results, may occur if the restriction requirement is maintained. In this regard, Applicants respectfully submit that the method of preparation of claims 28-40 (Group I) is for producing original isolating material as defined in claims 41-54 (Group II) and that the isolating materials of Group II cannot be obtained by another method than the method as defined in the Group I.